

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Applicants : Lemus-Tejada et al.
Serial No. : N/A
Filed : N/A
Title : INTEGRATED OPTICAL TIME DOMAIN REFLECTOMETER
AND OPTICAL SUPERVISORY NETWORK
Docket No. : SOI 0002 PA

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This paper is being filed with the above-noted application. Consideration of the present application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks below.

In the Specification:

Please add the following new heading and paragraph following the title on page 1 of the present application:

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CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/251,136, filed December 4, 2000.

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Serial No. - N/A

Art Unit - N/A

Please cancel the entire abstract and introduce the following new abstract:

An integrated OTDR/OSC mechanism for monitoring an optical transport system without disrupting the normal service. The invention combines two essential network components in an integrated mechanism. These components are the mandatory OSC function as part of any DWDM network, and the in-skin, in-service attributes of the OTDR engine. One pair of control wavelengths is sufficient to perform both OSC and OTDR functionalities. In this way, a distributed control function, OTDR procedures, and fiber monitoring is achieved, while trace acquisition from anywhere in the network becomes possible. By bringing these two essential network components together, the invention allows for superior network management and reduction in maintenance costs. This is primarily due to the fact that the invention allows to use and control the OTDR engine remotely, while the combination with the OSC function allows rapid implementation of the OTDR procedures on operating channels within each fiber of a cable.

REMARKS

By the present amendment the specification has been amended to refer to the provisional application to which the present application claims priority. The abstract has also been re-written as a single paragraph.

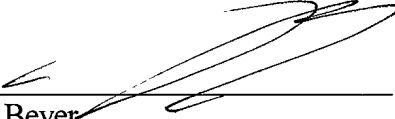
Serial No. - N/A
Art Unit - N/A

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to resolve efficiently any formal matters or to discuss any aspects of the application or of this response. Otherwise, early notification of allowable subject matter is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

KILLWORTH, GOTTMAN, HAGAN &
SCHAEFF, L.L.P.

By 
James E. Beyer
Registration No. 39,564

One Dayton Centre
One South Main Street, Suite 500
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2023
Telephone: (937) 223-2050
Facsimile: (937) 223-0724
e-mail: beyerj@kghs.com

Serial No. - N/A
Art Unit - N/A

Appendix A

VERSION OF PARAGRAPHS AND CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

No changes have been made to any currently pending paragraphs of the present specification. The above-noted paragraph has been added to page 1 of the specification. The original abstract has been replaced.

In the Claims:

No changes have been made to the claims.